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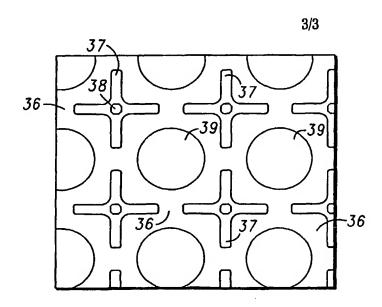
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(54) Title: POWER SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME



(57) Abstract: A low on-state resistance power semiconductor device has a shape and an arrangement that increase the channel density and the breakdown voltage. The power semiconductor device comprises a plurality of individual cells formed on a semiconductor substrate (62). Each individual cell comprises a plurality of radially extending branches (80) having source regions (37) within base regions The plurality of individual cells are arranged such that at least one branch of each cell extends towards at least one branch of an adjacent cell and wherein the base region (36) of the extending branches merge together to form a single and substantially uniformly doped base region (36) surrounding drain islands (39) at the surface of the semiconductor substrate (62).



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CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER PC 7 H01L29/78 H01L29/08 H01L29/10 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 H01L Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) **EPO-Internal** C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with Indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ° 1-14 PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN X vol. 013, no. 571 (E-862), 18 December 1989 (1989-12-18) -& JP 01 238173 A (SANYO ELECTRIC CO LTD), 22 September 1989 (1989-09-22) cited in the application abstract; figures 5,2,3 US 5 399 892 A (NEILSON J M S ET AL) 21 March 1995 (1995-03-21) 1-9 X cited in the application column 3, line 16 - line 34; figures 4-6 column 3, line 49 -column 4, line 19; 10-12,14A figure 10 -/--Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. X Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance Invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "E" earlier document but published on or after the International document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu- O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled other means document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed *&* document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 04/09/2003 27 August 2003 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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